Australian Bureau of Statistics

1406.0.55.005 - User Manual: Survey TableBuilder, 2011

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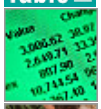

Table view
Includes**: Customising your table, saving and opening an existing table**

My custom data
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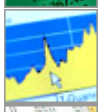
My tables
Includes: **How to manage the view of customised tables**



Graph view
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Survey TableBuilder is an online tool for creating tables and graphs from ABS survey data.

This user manual provides information about how to build and customise tables and graphs in Survey TableBuilder.

This manual will be updated from time to time as ABS adds further functionalty to the system.

To apply for access to Survey TableBuilder data please visit our Microdata web pages at www.abs.gov.au/about/microdata.

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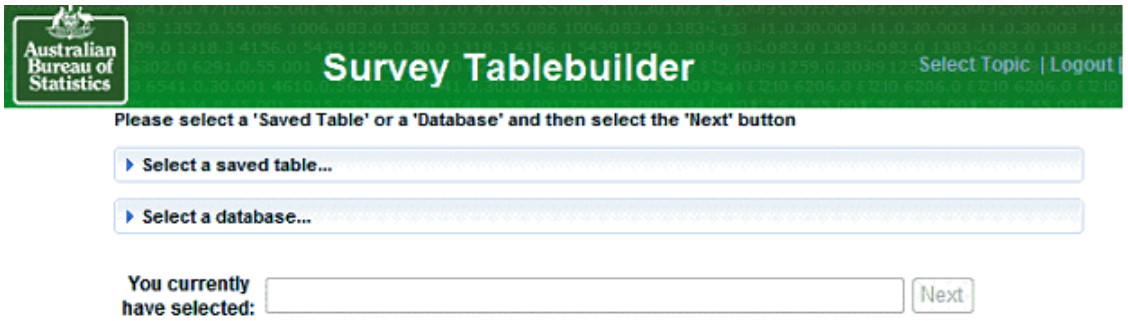
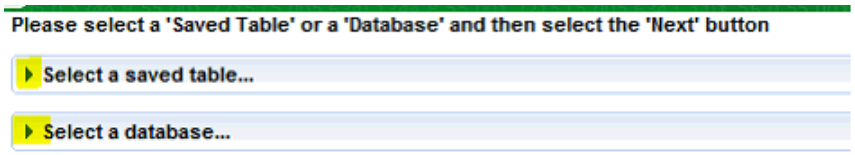
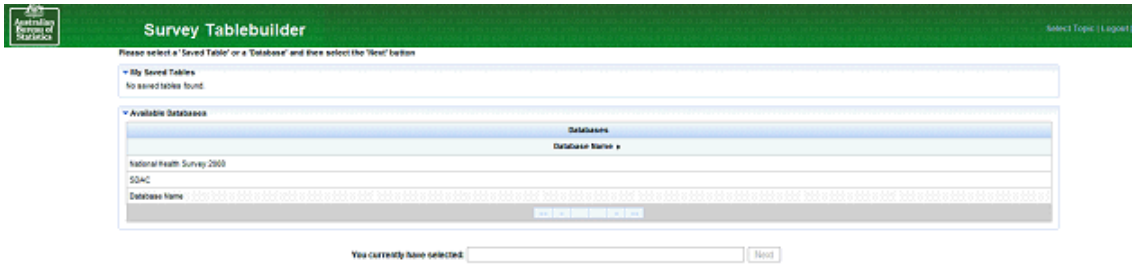
When you first log in to Survey TableBuilder you will be presented with the following screen:



Note: Clicking on the blue triangle ‘twisties” will expand your options:





On this screen you can:

- select a saved table from a previous TableBuilder session, or
- select an available survey database

This section contains the following subsection :

1.1 Selecting a Previously Saved Table
1.2 Select an Available Database
1.3 Timing Out

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The Table View function allows users to view and customise a single table.

In Table View you can:
· create a new table
· customise your table
· view previously saved tables
· move data items around the table
· remove data items from the table
· sort data
· hide and show totals
· convert labels to codes
· view the data as percentages
· save tables for use in later sessions
· download the table in Excel, CSV or SDMX format

This section contains the following subsection :

2.1 Customising Your Table
2.2 How to Add/Remove/Change Data Items in a Table
2.3 How to Move Data Items Around in a Table
2.4 How to Add Totals in a Table
2.5 How to Convert Labels to Codes
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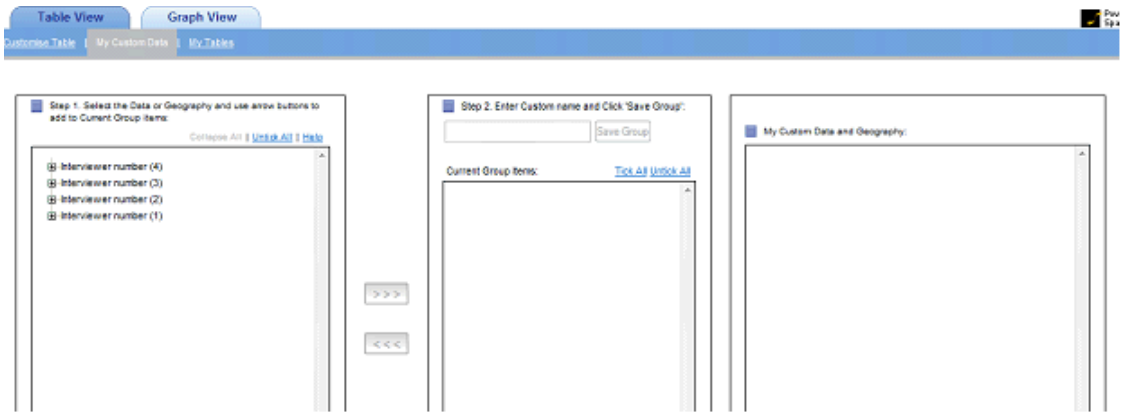
You can use the **'My Custom Data**' screen to create your own groups of data items or geographies to include in your table.



You can edit, delete and re-name your groups at any time.

Your groups are saved in TableBuilder and you can reuse them in later TableBuilder sessions.

This section contains the following subsection :

3.1 How to Create and Save Custom Data Groups
3.2 How to Copy, Edit and Delete Custom Data

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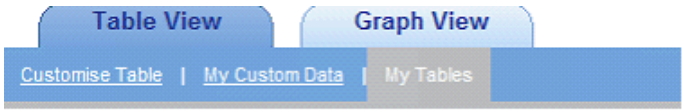
Contents >> 4 My Tables

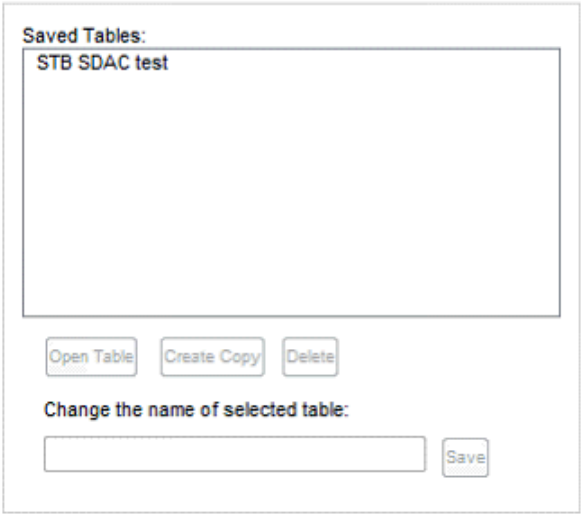
'My Tables' is a view for users to manage their saved customised tables.

In this view you can:

- open a table
- copy a table
- rename a table
- delete a table

To access the 'My Tables' screen click on the My Tables link in Table View.





To Open a Table

(ii) Select the table you wish to open in the 'Saved Tables' list
(ii) Click the 'Open Table' button. Note that if you already have a table built in Table View this will be replaced with the opened table.

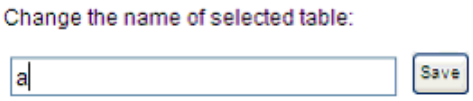
To Copy a Table

(i) Select the table you wish to copy in the 'Saved Tables' list.
(ii) Click the 'Create Copy' button.

The selected table name will be duplicated in the 'Saved Tables' list with a sequential number appended to the end of the name. You can now rename the copy.

To Rename a Table

(i) Select the table you wish to rename in the 'Saved Tables' list.
(ii) Enter a new name in the text field the list.
(iii) Press the 'Save' button.



To Delete a Table

(i) Select the table you wish to delete in the 'Saved Tables' list.
(ii) Press the 'Delete' button. Note that this action cannot be undone.

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The 'Graph View' function allows users to view the data contained in their table in a variety of graph formats. The contents of this chapter are under development.

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Before interpreting your results it is important to understand that confidentiality measures have been applied to the data. It is also important to understand the quality of the data produced.

This chapter is broken down into three subsections; Survey Data Confidentiality, Relative Standard Errors and Summation Options.

This section contains the following subsection :

6.1 Survey Data Confidentiality
6.2 Relative Standard Error (RSE)
6.3 Summation Options

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In accordance with the Census and Statistics Act 1905, data in TableBuilder are subjected to a confidentiality process before release. This confidentiality process is applied to avoid releasing information that may lead to the identification of individuals, families, households, dwellings or businesses, without impairing the usefulness of the tables.

Care should be taken in analysing tables with cells containing small numbers. No reliance should be placed on small number cells or cells with large percentage Relative Standard Error (RSE) values. Aside from the effects of the confidentiality process, sampling error and possible respondent and processing errors have the greatest relative impact on small numbers and cells with large percentage RSEs.

A technique has been developed to randomly adjust cell values. Random adjustment of the data is considered to be the most satisfactory technique for avoiding the release of identifiable data in Survey TableBuilder. When the technique is applied, all cells are adjusted to prevent any identifiable data being exposed. These adjustments result in introduced random errors, however, the information value of the table as a whole is not impaired.

The totals and subtotals in tables are also subjected to small adjustments. These adjustments of totals and subtotals include modifications to preserve the additivity within tables. Although each table of this kind is internally consistent, comparisons between tables which contain similar data may show some minor discrepancies. In addition the tables at different geographic levels are adjusted independently and tables at the higher geographic level may not be equal to the sum of the tables for the component geographic units.

It is not possible to determine which individual figures have been affected by random error adjustments, but the small variance which may be associated with derived totals can, for the most part, be ignored.

Some RSE values may also be adjusted, to ensure consistency with the cell values.

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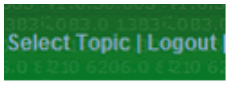
Contents >> 7 Logging out

The Logout button is at the top right hand side of the screen once you have successfully logged into TableBuilder.



Click Logout to exit TableBuilder.

Note that any tables that have not been saved will be lost.

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